

BELT FOR CASUAL WEAR

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to belt to be worn round the waist and, more particularly, to a belt for casual wear, which is easy and inexpensive to manufacture.

Figure 1 illustrates a belt **8** for casual wear according to the prior art.
10 This design of belt is comprised of a number of parts, thereby resulting in complicated manufacturing process and high manufacturing cost. The formation of the tailpiece of this design of belt **8** comprises the steps of:

15 A: Shape forming where a belt punch (not shown) is used to cut a leather into a tailpiece **81** having a plurality of punch holes **811** longitudinally aligned in a line (see Figure 2);

B: Opening forming: where a leather splitter (not shown) is used to split one end of the tailpiece **81**, forming an opening **812** (see Figure 3); and

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C: Marking: where the back side of the tailpiece **81** is stamped with country of origin **813** and model number **814** (see Figure 4).

The formation of the keeper of the aforesaid prior art belt **8** comprises
25 the steps of:

A: Shape cutting: where the belt punch is operated to cut a leather into a narrow piece for keeper 82 (see Figure 5); and

B: Binding: where the ends of the narrow piece for keeper 82 are 5 joined with staples (see Figure 6).

The formation of the headpiece of the aforesaid prior art belt 8 comprises the steps of:

10 A: Shape forming: where the belt punch is operated to cut a leather is cut into a tailpiece 81 having an oblong hole 831 (see Figure 7);

B: Insertion of buckle 85: where the headpiece 83 is inserted through the buckle 85 and then folded up

15 C: Stitching: where the folded headpiece 83 is fastened with stitches 832 to secure the buckle 85 to the headpiece 83;

D: Insertion of the keeper 82: where the headpiece 83 is inserted 20 through the keeper 82; and

E: Insertion of connecting ring 86: where the headpiece 83 is inserted through the connecting ring 86 and then fastened with stitches 833 to secure the connecting ring 86 to the headpiece 83 (see Figure 8).

The formation of the headpiece of the aforesaid prior art belt 8 comprises the step of using the belt punch to cut a leather into the desired belt body 84.

5 The assembly process of the aforesaid prior art belt 8 comprises the steps of (a) inserting the belt body 84 through the adjustment frame 87 and then stitching the belt body 84 to secure the adjustment frame 87 to the belt body 84; (b) inserting the belt body 84 through the connecting ring 86 and then the adjustment frame 87; and (c) fastening the tail end 841 of the belt body 84 to the 10 opening 812 of the tailpiece 81 with stitches. Thus, the desired belt 8 is finished.

The aforesaid prior art belt has numerous drawbacks as follows:

1. Because the belt is comprised of a number of parts, the assembly 15 process of the belt wastes much time and labor.

2. The tailpiece, the keeper, and the headpiece must be separately made and then fastened to one another with the connecting ring and the adjustment frame. Because of complicated assembly process, it is difficult to achieve 20 quality control.

3. When forming an opening at one end of the tailpiece, it is difficult to accurately and equally split the end of the tailpiece. Uneven splitting of the tailpiece affects the structural strength.

4. It is inconvenient to stitch the bolded part of the headpiece.

Therefore, it is desirable to provide a belt for casual wear that eliminates the aforesaid drawbacks.

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The present invention has been accomplished under the circumstances in view. It is the main object of the present invention to provide a belt for casual wear, which is comprised of less number of parts, saving material consumption. It is another object of the present invention to provide a belt for casual wear, 10 which is easy and inexpensive to manufacture. It is still another object of the present invention to provide a belt for casual wear, which enables the belt length to be conveniently adjusted during fabrication.

To achieve these and other objects of the present invention, the belt 15 comprises a buckle base stamped from a metal plate, the buckle base having two upright sidewalls, two pivot holes respectively cut through the upright sidewalls, a transverse insertion slot extended between the upright sidewalls, two side notches respectively formed at the upright sidewalls in communication with two distal ends of the transverse insertion slot, a front knuckle, a longitudinal slot 20 extended to a middle part of the front knuckle, and a prong pin pivotally disposed at a middle part of the front knuckle; a pivot, the pivot has two end rods respectively pivotally fastened to the pivot holes at the upright sidewalls of the buckle base; a metal buckle frame, the buckle frame having a substantially rectangular open body fastened pivotally with the front knuckle and the prong 25 pin; an adjustment frame, the adjustment frame having a transversely extended

middle rod and two insertion slots separated by the transversely extended middle rod; a tailpiece injection-molded from plastics, the tailpiece having an opening at a front end thereof, and a plurality of punch holes longitudinally aligned in a line; and a belt body made of elastic fabric, the belt body having a
5 first end inserted through the insertion slots of the adjustment frame and fastened to the transversely extended middle rod of the adjustment frame with stitches, and a second end inserted through the transverse insertion slot of the buckle base over the pivot and then inserted through the insertion slots of the adjustment frame and fastened to the opening of the tailpiece with stitches.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt for casual wear according to the prior art.

15 Figure 2 is an elevational view of a tailpiece before splitting and marking according to the prior art.

Figure 3 is similar to Figure 2 but showing an opening formed at one end of the tailpiece.

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Figure 4 is similar to Figure 3 but showing the marks of country of origin and model number marked on the inner side of the rear end of the tailpieces according to the prior art.

25 Figure 5 is a perspective view of a narrow piece of leather for keeper

according to the prior art.

Figure 6 is an elevational view of a keeper for belt according to the prior art.

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Figure 7 is an extended out view of a headpiece for belt according to the prior art.

Figure 8 is an elevational view showing the headpiece fastened to the
10 buckle, the keeper and the connecting ring according to the prior art.

Figure 9 is an exploded view of a belt for casual wear according to the present invention.

15 Figure 10 is a perspective view of the belt for casual wear according to the present invention.

Figure 11 is another perspective view of the belt for casual wear according to the present invention when viewed from another side.

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Figure 12 is a perspective view of a part of the present invention, showing the rear end of the tailpiece secured in place between the belt body and the buckle base.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to Figures 9~12, a belt for casual wear in accordance with the present invention is shown comprised of a buckle base 1, a pivot 2, a buckle frame 3, a belt body 4, an adjustment frame 5, and a tailpiece 6.

The buckle base 1 is stamped from a metal plate, having two upright sidewalls 11, two pivot holes 111 respectively cut through the upright sidewalls 11, a transverse insertion slot 12 extended between the upright sidewalls 11, two side notches 112 respectively formed at the upright sidewalls 11 in communication with the ends of the transverse insertion slot 12, a front knuckle 13, a longitudinal slot 130 extended to the middle part of the front knuckle 13, and a prong pin 131 pivotally disposed at the middle of the front knuckle 13.

15 The pivot 2 has two end rods 211 respectively pivotally fastened to the pivot holes 111 at the upright sidewalls 11 of the buckle base 1.

The buckle frame 3 is a metal open frame having a substantially rectangular open body 31. The rear side 32 of the rectangular open body 31 is 20 fastened pivotally with the front knuckle 13 and the prong pin 131.

The adjustment frame 5 is made by bending a metal rod into shape, having a transversely extended middle rod 51 and two insertion slots 52 and 53 separated by the transversely extended middle rod 51.

The tailpiece **6** is injection-molded from plastics, having an opening **61** at the front end, and a plurality of punch holes **62** longitudinally aligned in a line. Further, the inner side of the rear end **63** of the tailpiece **6** is marked with the marks of country of origin **64** and model number **65**.

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The belt body **4** is a strap of elastic fabric, having one end **41** inserted through the insertion slots **52** and **53** of the adjustment frame **5** and fastened to the transversely extended middle rod **51** with stitches, and the other end **42** inserted through the transverse insertion slot **12** over the pivot **2** and then 10 inserted through the insertion slots **52** and **53** of the adjustment frame **5** and fastened to the opening **61** of the tailpiece **6** with stitches.

After insertion of the prong pin **131** into one punch hole **62**, the rear end of the tailpiece **6** is inserted through the transverse insertion slot **12** and held 15 down on the belt body **4** by the buckle base **1** (see Figure 12). Because of the presence of the side notches **112** at the ends of the transverse insertion slot **12**, the rear part of the tailpiece **6** can easily be inserted through the transverse insertion slot **12**. Further, because the front knuckle **13** is an integrated part of the buckle base **1**, the buckle frame **3** and the prong pin **131** can easily be 20 fastened to the buckle base **1**.

As indicated, the invention has the following advantages:

1. The formation of the transverse insertion slot **12** and the side notches 25 **112** enables the rear end of the tailpiece **6** to be easily positioned after insertion

of the prong pin **131** into one punch hole **62** at the tailpiece **6**. Further, because the front knuckle **13** is an integrated part of the buckle base **1**, the buckle frame **3** and the prong pin **131** can easily be fastened to the buckle base **1**. This simple structural design diminishes material consumption and saves much labor,
5 thereby reducing the manufacturing cost.

2. The tailpiece **6** can be made through a mass production process to lower the cost. Because the tailpiece **6** is made by injection molding, quality control is easy to achieve. Further, the buckle base **1** can also be made through a
10 mass production process.

3. The marks of country of origin **64** and model number **65** are directly formed during injection molding of the tailpiece **6**, saving much time and labor.

15 4. The tailpiece **6** and the buckle base **1** are durable in use, not easy to deform.

5. When adjusting the length during fabrication, directly adjust the relative position between the belt body **4** and the adjustment frame **5** without
20 cutting the belt body **4**.

Although a particular embodiment of the invention has been described in detail for purposes of illustration, various modifications and enhancements may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.
25 Accordingly, the invention is not to be limited except as by the appended claims.